Appl. No.: 10/537,036 Amdt. dated June 10, 2008

Reply to Office Action of March 20, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An acoustic panel comprising first and second walls between which a sound absorber is disposed, said panel comprising, successively arranged: <u>said</u> first wall, a plate of viscoelastic material on an inside face of the first wall facing towards the sound absorber, a backing plate carrying spacer elements that are distributed in at least one dimension between the backing plate and the sound absorber, and that create an air gap between the <u>sound</u> absorber and the backing plate, said sound absorber and said second wall.

- 2. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 1, wherein the spacer elements form a two-dimensional array.
- 3. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 1, wherein said array comprises a grid, a honeycomb, or embossing.
- 4. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 3, wherein the grid, the honeycomb, or the embossing constitutes a net with the sound absorber being placed inside the net.
- 5. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 2, wherein the array comprises studs distributed in said two dimensions.
- 6. (Previously Presented) An acoustic panel according to claim 2, including a self-adhesive film carrying said array, said film being stuck onto the sound absorber.
- 7. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 1, wherein said spacer elements are reinforcing elements secured to the backing plate.
- 8. (Original) An acoustic panel according to claim 7, wherein said reinforcing elements are embossing, in the form of optionally parallel ribs, a honeycomb, studs, or bosses.
- 9. (Previously Presented) An acoustic panel according to claim 1, wherein the backing plate is embossed to form said spacer elements and to stiffen the backing plate.